Professional Organizations:
The “American Massage Therapy Association” and the “Associated Bodywork & Massage Professionals” are the organizations representing the profession. Students accepted into the program can join both organizations. For more information visit their websites at: amta.org and abmp.com.

Scholarships and Financial Aid:
Allegany College of Maryland offers a comprehensive program of financial assistance. Our Foundation office handles both merit-based and financial-based scholarships. Please contact Sandi Foreman at 301-784-5200. The financial aid office administers state and federally supported grant and loan programs. You may contact them at 301-784-5213.

The Massage Therapy Program has been designated a Health Manpower Shortage program by the Maryland Higher Education Commission. This means that Maryland residents from outside Allegany County may be eligible for in-county tuition rates. Please check with our Admission Office for details (301-784-5199).

Allegany College of Maryland proudly welcomes members of the United States Military and their dependents on our campus. It is our mission to assist with educational benefits you’ve earned and provide the resources needed to attain your student goals.

To determine if you are eligible for VA educational benefits, please contact the VA at 1-888-442-4551.

If you need assistance with applying for benefits, please reach out to Beth Nightengale at 301-784-5209.

Faculty and Staff:
Kirsten O. Hansen, LMT, MLD/C
Program Director
khansen@allegany.edu
301-784-5191

Melissa Smith, LMT
Clinical Coordinator & Faculty Member
msmith13@allegany.edu
301-784-5598

Beth Hilliker, LMT
Faculty Member
bhilliker@allegany.edu
301-784-5392

Emily Green, LMT
Faculty Member
egreen@allegany.edu
301-784-5392

Elaine Helmstetter
Program Secretary
ehelmstetter@allegany.edu
301-784-5557

Allegany College of Maryland ensures its commitment to continuously comply with federal and state laws and the Maryland Office of Civil Rights to prohibit discrimination. To view ACM’s full Non-Discrimination Policy visit: https://www.allegany.edu/non-discrimination
About the Profession:

Massage Therapy has become one of the most commonly used complimentary health approaches in the United States. Massage therapists use skillful touch modalities to manipulate muscles and other soft tissues of the body. Studies of the benefits of massage demonstrate that it is an effective treatment for reducing stress, pain, and muscle tension.

Program Highlights:

We believe that being a well-trained massage therapist gives you the ability to improve your life, and enter the field with confidence, knowing you have the skills it takes to build the career you want. Our caring and supportive faculty is here to guide you every step of the way.

We maintain small class sizes. For our lecture based courses we have a 16:1 ratio, and for our hands on principles classes our student to teacher ratio is 8:1.

Massage Therapy: It is a fulfilling and rewarding career choice; come learn a new skill set and start a new career today.

Testimonials:

“After working most of my adult life in an office, I realized it was not really me. I didn’t love my career. In my early 40’s, I took a leap of faith and enrolled in the Massage Therapy program. It was one of the best decisions of my life. I love going to work now, and find it prosperous and incredibly fulfilling.”

– B. Hilliker, LMT, Class of 2014

“The Massage Therapy program at Allegany College of Maryland is blessed to have some of the finest teachers available. It is detailed, intensely exciting, supportive of each student’s goals, and provides an opportunity for growth in a field that promotes wellness for everyone.”

– C.C. Smith, Class of 2018

The State of Maryland has a two tier system for Massage Therapists.

The certificate program prepares graduates to become Maryland Registered Massage Practitioners while the A.A.S degree program is designed for those who wish to obtain a degree and become a Maryland Licensed Massage Therapist. Registered Massage Practitioners (RMP) may practice in the state of Maryland in any business facility non-medical, while Licensed Massage Therapists (LMT) also will be prepared to practice in health care facilities. After graduating from either of our programs, you will be prepared to sit for the Massage and Bodywork Licensing Examination (MBLEx) offered by the Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards. We have a 100% pass rate on the exam.

To register for licensure or registration in the state of Maryland you must also have a passing score of 75% on the Massage Therapy Jurisprudence Examination. If you live in one of our neighboring states of West Virginia, Virginia or Pennsylvania we welcome you to apply to our program and once you graduate you can register for a license in your home state.

The following data is derived from: The US Bureau of Labor Statistics-Occupational Outlook Handbook:

**Job Outlook:** “Employment of massage therapists is projected to grow **22 percent** from 2014 to 2024, much faster than the average for all occupations. Continued growth in the demand for massage services will lead to new openings for massage therapists.”

**Pay:** The median annual wage for massage therapists was $38,040 in May 2015.

Career Opportunities

**The one year (12 month) certificate option offers employment opportunities in:**
- Spas
- Fitness Centers
- On-site corporate chair massage
- Private Practice

**One Year Certificate Courses Include:**
- Introduction to Massage
- Human Biology
- Holistic Approach to Wellness
- Principles of Massage I & II
- Ethics
- Business
- Pathology
- Clinical Practice I & II
- Anatomy & Physiology
- Medical Terminology
- English
- Mathematics

**The two year licensing option offers employment opportunities in:**
- Hospitals
- Hospices
- Pain Clinics
- Physician Offices
- Chiropractic Centers
- And the options stated for the certificate program

**The Two Year Licensing Courses Include:**
- Current Trends in Massage Therapy
- Principles of Massage III
- Clinical Practice III & IV
- Medical Massage
- Hospital-based Internship
- Speech Communication
- General Psychology

Accreditation:

Allegany College of Maryland is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education. The College is also accredited and approved for operation by the Maryland Higher Education Commission.